

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 03806 210557Z  
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 LAB-04  
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /082 W  
-----003962 212356Z /75

R 210527Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5945  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOR INR

EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, ELAB, UR, NZ  
SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND REACTION TO SOVIET DISSIDENTS' TRIALS

REF: (A) STATE 178559, (B) WELLINGTON 03691,  
- (C) WELLINGTON 03600

1. BEGIN UNCLAS: FOLLOWING NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT  
MOTION (REFTELS B AND C) WHICH ADVISED THAT NZ PARLIA-  
MENT WAS CLOSELY FOLLOWING SOVIET UNION DISSIDENTS'  
TRIALS, OPPOSITION LABOUR PARTY HAS ADDED ITS VOICE TO  
THE CRITICISM OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS' TRIALS. LABOUR  
PARTY STATEMENT SAID TRIALS ARE "MAJOR BLOW TO THE  
STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD. WHILE WE  
RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF ANY GOVERNMENT TO ADMINISTER  
ITS OWN LAWS, THE LABOUR PARTY IS FIRMLY COMMITTED  
TO THE PRINCIPLES AGREED TO AT THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

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- "WE SUPPORT THE RIGHT OF PEOPLE TO ELECT WHERE  
THEY WISH TO LIVE AND RAISE THEIR FAMILY, AND ACCEPT  
OUR PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSIST  
REFUGEES FROM ANY POLITICAL OR WAR SITUATION.

- "THE SOVIET TRIALS WILL AGAIN FOCUS WORLD ATTENTION

ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND, HOPEFULLY, MAY ENCOURAGE MORE POSITIVE THINKING IN THE SOVIET UNION AND ELSEWHERE."

2. (UNCLAS) IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF LABOR (FOL) ADDED ITS VOICE TO INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU) PROTESTS FOR DISSIDENTS' TRIALS. FOL EXECUTIVE HAS SENT TO ICFTU BRUSSELS HEADQUARTERS A TELEGRAM EXPRESSING THE FOL CONCERN AT THE TRIALS AND REQUESTING IT BE JOINED IN ANY PROTESTS TO BE MADE BY ICFTU TO SOVIET GOVERNMENT. END UNCLAS.

3. BEGIN LOU: FOL EXECUTIVE SOURCES ADVISED LABATT THAT FOL SECRETARY'S (KNOX) SUGGESTION THAT FOL TAKE A POSITION OPPOSING DISSIDENT TRIALS LED TO IMMEDIATE EXECUTIVE DISSENSION. LEFTIST EXECUTIVE MEMBERS REQUESTED THAT EXECUTIVE TAKE NO DECISION UNTIL IT HAD THE BENEFIT OF THE SOVIET VIEWPOINT OF THE TRIALS. THEY SUGGESTED THAT AN INQUIRY BE LODGED WITH SOVIET TRADE UNIONS. KNOX MADE POINT THAT IF ICFTU TAKES ON OTHER COUNTRIES IN THIS RESPECT (NAMING CHILE AS EXAMPLE), IT MUST ALSO TAKE ON SOVIET UNION. MOTION WAS NARROWLY CARRIED. END LOU. SELDEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRIALS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Film Number:** D780301-0131  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 2aae8a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION INR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1920874  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW ZEALAND REACTION TO SOVIET DISSIDENTS\ TRIALS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, ELAB, UR, NZ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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